

FILED IN THE  
U.S. DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

**Jul 31, 2025**

SEAN F. McAVOY, CLERK

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

BENJAMIN THEODORE  
STUCKART,  
JUSTICE FORRAL,  
MIKKI PIKE HATFIELD,  
ERIN NICOLE LANG,  
COLLIN JAMES MUNCEY,  
THALIA MARIE RAMIREZ,  
BOBBI LEE SILVA,  
BAJUN DHUNJISHA  
MAVALWALLA  
II, and,  
JAC DALITSO ARCHER,

Defendants.

No. 2:25-CR-00113-RLP-1, 2, 3, 4, 5,  
6, 7, 8, 9

ORDER GRANTING PROTECTIVE  
ORDER IN PART

Before the Court is the United States' motion for a protective order, ECF  
No. 140. The government requests that federal agency materials in the Possession  
of the United States and maintained in a federal government system of records be

ORDER GRANTING PROTECTIVE ORDER IN PART \* 1

1 subject to a protective order governing discovery. Defendants do not object to the  
2 motion.

3 The Court largely finds good cause pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 16(d)(1) to  
4 enter the requested protective order. However, paragraph 5 of the government's  
5 order anticipates that any written reference to the content of protected discovery be  
6 filed under seal. The Court reminds the parties the public has a right to access  
7 criminal proceedings, and to inspect public records related to judicial proceedings.  
8 *Globe Newspaper Co. v. Super. Ct. for Norfolk County*, 457 U.S. 596, 606, 102  
9 S.Ct. 2613 (1982); *Nixon v. Warner Commc'ns*, 435 U.S. 589, 597, 98 S.Ct. 1306  
10 (1978). The Court will not grant permission for a filing to be made under seal  
11 unless the requesting party makes an individualized demonstration that (1) sealing  
12 a document serves a compelling interest, (2) that is substantially likely to be  
13 harmed if the document is not sealed, and (3) there are no less restrictive  
14 alternatives for protecting the interest. *See United States v. Doe*, 870 F.3d 991, 998  
15 (9th Cir. 2017).

16 **IT IS ORDERED:**

17 1. The Government's Unopposed Motion for Protective Order  
18 Regulating Disclosure of Discovery and Sensitive Information, **ECF No. 140**, is  
19 **GRANTED in part and DENIED in part.**

1           2.     The United States will provide the covered discovery materials on an  
2 ongoing basis to defense counsel.

3           3.     Counsel of record shall hold these materials in strict confidence,  
4 disclosing this information to their clients, office staff, investigators, and/or  
5 witnesses (including any experts) only to the extent they believe is necessary to  
6 assist in the defense of this matter.

7           4.     Defense counsel shall not provide original or copies of any covered  
8 discovery materials to the defendants.

9           5.     Defense counsel shall not otherwise provide original or copies of the  
10 discovery material to any other person, including subsequently appointed or  
11 retained defense counsel, but excluding any staff of defense counsel or investigator  
12 and/or expert engaged by defense counsel who will also be bound by the terms and  
13 conditions of the Protective Order. Counsel of record shall further advise any  
14 person to whom the discovery materials are disclosed that, pursuant to the attached  
15 Protective Order, the information must be held in strict confidence and the  
16 recipient may not further disclose or disseminate the information.

17          6.     The United States, defense counsel, and witnesses may reference the  
18 existence and content of sealed/protected discovery material in open and closed  
19 Court proceedings relevant to this case. However, prior to filing any written  
20 reference to the content of protected discovery, counsel shall engage in a meet and

1 confer process. During the meet and confer process, counsel seeking to file  
2 protected discovery shall notify all other counsel of the plan to file protected  
3 material. If counsel for any party (including counsel for the party seeking to file the  
4 protected material) claims believes that the protected discovery should be filed  
5 under seal, then the material shall be filed as proposed sealed documents. Counsel  
6 for the party seeking to seal the protected material shall then file a motion to seal,  
7 along with legal authority addressing the applicable standard for sealing court  
8 documents, as set forth in the opening paragraph of this Order.

9 7. Any covered items provided to a defendant and defense counsel  
10 pursuant to the above provisions, must be returned to the United States or  
11 destroyed at the conclusion of the trial, sentencing, or appeal, whichever is later.

12 8. United States personnel and counsel for defendants shall promptly  
13 report to the Court any known violations of this Order.

14 9. A defendant may seek relief from the Protective Order at any point  
15 during the proceedings.

16 **IT IS SO ORDERED.** The District Court Clerk is hereby directed to enter  
17 this Order and provide copies to all counsel.

18 DATED July 31, 2025.

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20 \_\_\_\_\_  
REBECCA L. PENNELL  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE